

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 245150

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASUP, MASS, XF

SUBJECT: UNEF: LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

1. USUN HAS DISCUSSED WITH UN SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS
LATTER'S PLANS FOR EQUIPPING AND MOVING UNEF CONTINGENTS
TO MONITOR NEW ZONES CREATED BY SINAI II AGREEMENT.
SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS ATTACH HIGHEST PRIORITY TO OBTAINING
PREFAB STRUCTURES FOR CAMPS, HOUSING, OFFICE SPACE, AND
OBSERVATION POSTS, AS WELL AS NEW AND REFURBISHED VEHICLES.

2. ACCORDING UN, ISRAELIS ARE WILLING TO LEAVE PREFABS
THEY ERECTED IN SOUTHERN SECTOR (PRESUMABLY IN OR NEAR
ABU RUDEIS OILFIELDS) PROVIDED UN PURCHASES PREFABS
FROM ISRAELIS. OTHERWISE, ISRAELIS TELL UN THEY WILL DIS-
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MANTLE PREFABS FOR USE IN OTHER AREAS OF SINAI. IN THIS

CASE, UN WILL HAVE TO LOOK ELSEWHERE (PROBABLY TO USG) FOR PROCUREMENT AND AIR SHIPMENT OF ITS REQUIREMENTS FOR PREFAB STRUCTURES. UN SAYS ISRAELIS PUT 6 MILLION DOLLARS PRICETAG ON THEIR EXISTING PREFAB INSTALLATIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND, DOD ESTIMATES UN SHOPPING LIST FOR PREFAB UNITS NEEDED FOR SINAI II AGREEMENT RUN ABOUT 5 MILLION WITHOUT TRANSPORTATION. NOT CLEAR HERE WHETHER ISRAELI PREFABS WOULD MEET ALL OF UN REQUIREMENTS.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY RAISE MATTER WITH APPROPRIATE FOREIGN OR DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS TO SEE WHETHER ISRAELIS COULD BE PERSUADED TO DONATE PREFABS TO UNEF. THIS WOULD OF COURSE BE AND BE SEEN AS GENEROUS GESTURE ON PART OF GOI. MORE PRACTICALLY, IT WOULD GREATLY FACILITATE ESTABLISHMENT OF UNEF IN NEW ZONES AS ISRAELIS WANT AND OBVIATE MANY LOGISTICS HEADACHES FOR UN. IT WOULD ALSO HELP REDUCE SIGNIFICANTLY COSTS TO UN OF EXPANDED UNEF. AS GOI AWARE, SUCH EXTRA COSTS WILL BE CAREFULLY SCRUTINIZED IN UN. KEEPING UN COSTS DOWN WILL AVOID ADDITIONAL PEG FOR SOVIETS TO OPPOSE OR HINDER SC AGREEMENT ON RENEWAL OF UNEF AND WILL HELP MINIMIZE ARGUMENT IN UNGA FOR ALTERING PRESENT ASSESSMENT FORMULA ON UNEF FINANCING. YOU COULD TAKE TACK THAT LEAVING FACILITIES INTACT SO OBVIOUSLY SERVES ISRAELI INTERESTS WE CAN ONLY ASSUME ISRAELI POLICY LEVELS WOULD SEE ADVANTAGES.

4. FYI. ISRAELIS WILL SURELY NOTE THAT LEAVING PREFABS IN PLACE WILL ALSO REDUCE FINANCIAL AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON USG AND UN SECRETARIAT. WE DO NOT WANT TO LEAVE ANY IMPRESSION THAT USG WILL REIMBURSE ISRAELIS DIRECTLY FOR ANY COSTS OF EXISTING OR REPLACEMENT PREFABS. (THIS IS ONE ALTERNATIVE MENTIONED BY UN SECRETARIAT).
END FYI. INGERSOLL

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